

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate passed S. 3412, Middle Class Tax Cut Act.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S5321–S5418

Measures Introduced: Fourteen bills and one resolution were introduced, as follows: S. 3430–3443 and S. Con. Res. 54. **Page S5381**

Measures Passed:

Middle Class Tax Cut Act: By 51 yeas to 48 nays (Vote No. 184), Senate passed S. 3412, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax relief to middle-class families, after agreeing to the motion to proceed, and taking action on the following amendment proposed thereto:

Pages S5321–57

Rejected:

By 45 yeas to 54 nays (Vote No. 183), Hatch/McConnell Amendment No. 2573, in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S5352–53**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill, be withdrawn. **Page S5352**

Sopuruchi Chukwueke: Senate passed S. 285, for the relief of Sopuruchi Chukwueke, after agreeing to the committee amendment. **Pages S5412–13**

Sequestration Transparency Act: Senate passed H.R. 5872, to require the President to provide a report detailing the sequester required by the Budget Control Act of 2011 on January 2, 2013. **Page S5413**

Measures Considered:

Cybersecurity Act—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 3414, to enhance the security and resiliency of the cyber and communications infrastructure of the United States. **Pages S5357–67**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII

of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur on Friday, July 27, 2012.

Pages S5357, S5413

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Ranee Ramaswamy, of Minnesota, to be a Member of the National Council on the Arts for a term expiring September 3, 2018.

A routine list in the Public Health Service.

Pages S5413–18

Messages from the House:

Page S5370

Measures Referred:

Page S5370

Measures Placed on the Calendar:

Pages S5321, S5370

Petitions and Memorials:

Pages S5370–80

Executive Reports of Committees:

Pages S5380–81

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages S5381–83

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:

Pages S5383–S5401

Additional Statements:

Pages S5368–70

Amendments Submitted:

Pages S5401–11

Notices of Hearings/Meetings:

Page S5411

Authorities for Committees to Meet:

Pages S5411–12

Privileges of the Floor:

Page S5412

Record Votes: Two record votes were taken today. (Total—184) **Pages S5353, S5355**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned at 7:07 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, July 26, 2012. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S5413.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

NUCLEAR WEAPON DETERRENT

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development concluded a hearing to examine the proper size of the nuclear weapons stockpile to maintain a credible U.S. deterrent, after receiving testimony from General James E. Cartwright, USMC, (Ret.), former Vice Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff, Department of Defense, and Thomas R. Pickering, former Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs, both of Global Zero United States Nuclear Policy Commission, and Keith B. Payne, Missouri State University Graduate Department of Defense and Strategic Studies, all of Washington, D.C.

IMPACT OF SEQUESTRATION ON EDUCATION

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies concluded a hearing to examine the impact of sequestration on education, after receiving testimony from Arne Duncan, Secretary of Education; June Atkinson, North Carolina State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Raleigh; Billy Walker, Randolph Field Independent School District, Universal City, Texas; Neal McCluskey, Cato Institute Center for Educational Freedom, Washington, D.C.; and Tammy L. Mann, The Campagna Center, Alexandria, Virginia.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Armed Services: Committee ordered favorably reported the nomination of Sean Sullivan, of Connecticut, to be a Member of the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board, and 878 nominations in the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps.

INTERNATIONAL SPACE STATION

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the International Space Station, focusing on research, collaboration, and discovery, after receiving testimony from William H. Gerstenmaier, Associate Administrator for Human Exploration and Operations, and Donald R. Pettit, Astronaut, both of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration; Thomas Reiter, European Space Agency, Paris, France; and James D. Royston, Center for the Advancement of Science and Space, Kennedy Space Center, Florida.

SHORT-SUPPLY PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee concluded a hearing to examine short-

supply prescription drugs, after receiving testimony from Representative Cummings; Virginia Herold, California State Board of Pharmacy Executive Officer, Sacramento; David Mayhaus, Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center, Cincinnati, Ohio; John M. Gray, Healthcare Distribution Management Association, Arlington, Virginia; John Coster, National Community Pharmacists Association, Alexandria, Virginia; and Patricia Earl, National Coalition of Pharmaceutical Distributors, Bowling Green, Ohio.

WATER USE EFFICIENCY

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Water and Power concluded an oversight hearing to examine the role of water use efficiency and its impact on energy use, after receiving testimony from Henry L. Green, National Institute of Building Sciences, Washington, D.C.; Daniel W. Bena, PepsiCo, Inc., Purchase, New York; Russ Chaney, International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials, Ontario, California; and Mary Ann Dickinson, Alliance for Water Efficiency, Chicago, Illinois.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

S. 847, to amend the Toxic Substances Control Act to ensure that risks from chemicals are adequately understood and managed, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 357, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to identify and declare wildlife disease emergencies and to coordinate rapid response to those emergencies, with an amendment;

S. 810, to prohibit the conducting of invasive research on great apes, with an amendment;

S. 1494, to reauthorize and amend the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Establishment Act, with an amendment;

S. 2071, to grant the Secretary of the Interior permanent authority to authorize States to issue electronic duck stamps;

S. 2156, to amend the Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp Act to permit the Secretary of the Interior, in consultation with the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission, to set prices for Federal Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamps and make limited waivers of stamp requirements for certain users, with an amendment;

S. 2282, to extend the authorization of appropriations to carry out approved wetlands conservation projects under the North American Wetlands Conservation Act through fiscal year 2017;